



# Torrance

and LOMITA NEWS

# Herald

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## Why Were the Bonds Defeated?

### Should We Heed the Wishes of Voters?

By Grover C. Whyte

One can scarcely believe that the 479 Torrance citizens who cast their votes against the park and playground bonds did so because of the small average cost of 90 cents a year; so we must look to other causes for the defeat of the issue. Perhaps the most objectionable feature of the project was that it was indefinite. No one knew where the park and the playgrounds were to be located.

When the project was first discussed among civic leaders, the writer along with several others pointed out the advisability of submitting a definite proposition to the voters, but our views were not accepted by the majority of leaders in the campaign, who argued that this was a matter for the council to decide. Of course, it is perhaps too much to say that had a definite location been announced and the price to be paid for the acreage been decided upon before the election that the issue would have succeeded. However, it must be acknowledged that it was the preponderance of "No" votes that defeated the issue and not the absence of "Yes" votes; and no doubt many who voted against the issue did so because of its indefiniteness. Had only 118 people who voted "No" cast their ballots in favor of the bonds, the project would have received the necessary two-thirds majority.

While the required two-thirds vote was not favorable to the bond issue, it must not be forgotten that a majority of the people who voted Tuesday favored parks and playgrounds. Would it not be wise, then, to heed the expressed wishes of the majority and spend the \$12,000 a year that would have been taken from the 10c promotion tax for maintenance and care of the defeated park and playgrounds in the acquisition and improvement of neighborhood playgrounds? Under present conditions it seems impractical to spend all the \$26,000 a year allotted to the Chamber of Commerce for promotion, and certainly half of this sum can wisely be spent in the acquisition and improvement of small play areas. Much of this \$12,000 would be spent for labor, thereby furnishing work for the unemployed without the necessity of increasing the tax cost. The 10 cent tax was voted for "promotion, parks and music," so it seems that the so-called "Chamber of Commerce" money can be legally spent for playground development.

The voters are to be congratulated on their selection of members for the board of freeholders. Such a representative group of intelligent citizens should be able to draft a good charter, but they will be required to spend long hours in study and research, and the writer does not envy them their job.

## State President To Attend Club Meeting

Dr. Florence Mae Morse, recently re-elected president of the California State League, will be a guest of the National Business and Professional Women of Torrance at their next dinner meeting at Earl's cafe, June 16.

Dr. Morse will give a brief talk on the business of the convention held at Berkeley in May. An additional program of music and other entertainment has been arranged, which will be of interest to all members.

## ENGINEER PREPARES TO ASK CO. AID FOR CABRILLO JOB

### Claims Thoroughfare is Considered Part of Sepulveda Boulevard System and of More Than Local Importance

Working plans for the proposed improvement of Cabrillo avenue, a project which will center the Pacific Electric tracks and provide an 80-foot thoroughfare paved from curb to curb, are being drafted in the City Engineer's office for early presentation to the County Board of Supervisors.

It is City Engineer Frank R. Leonard's intention, with the consent of the council, to ask the county to contribute toward this long-sought improvement. Leonard will base his plea for county assistance on the Cabrillo avenue job on the fact that the project is definitely a part of the Sepulveda boulevard improvement plan; that the Cabrillo-Sepulveda work is to be done on traffic arteries considered as main highways of the county; and that the entire project is of more than ordinary local benefit.

**Average County Sum**  
How much the county will give toward the Cabrillo avenue improvement is a question that can only be answered by the supervisors themselves. However, Leonard has kept an accurate table on all county appropriations for highway improvements and he believes that Torrance should get about the average appropriation. This is approximately 23 per cent of the construction cost.

The proposed improvement of Cabrillo, a street that now carries a large amount of traffic on narrow roadways bounded on one side by parked cars that jut out into the street and the unimproved Pacific Electric right-of-way, has been outlined as follows:

Moving the railway tracks between Bolder avenue and Carson street to the center of the thoroughfare; and the paving of the unimproved portions of the 80-foot street, curb to curb.

The centering of the tracks will eliminate the now-existing serious hazard Cabrillo maintains to motorists and pedestrians alike.

**Agreement With City**  
By an agreement reached May 24 between the City Council and D. W. Pontius, president of the Pacific Electric Railway Company, the railway granted permission to the city to pave and use its right-of-way on Cabrillo avenue without any cash payments in exchange for this privilege; the city agreed to grant the railway reversionary rights on other streets to an estimated land value of approximately \$32,500.

In past negotiations, the Pacific Electric, it should be remembered, has asked for payments of from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for its right-of-way on Cabrillo. The railway also agreed to permit the city to remove its tracks on Torrance (Redondo) boulevard west of Sartori and to lease the parking space between the roadways to the city for park beautification purposes at a nominal fee of one dollar per year.

**Cost Said Small**  
During the conference between Pacific Electric officials and the Torrance City Council, Pontius pointed out that since the city now owned the reversionary rights to certain streets in Torrance, it had something of value to trade the railroad company for its right-of-way on Cabrillo, and the suggestion that such a "trade" be made was voluntarily offered by Pontius.

The city and Cabrillo avenue property owners are to pay all expenses of moving the tracks on Cabrillo as well as the cost of paving the unpaved portions. This cost should be very small in comparison with the benefits gained from such a wide thoroughfare if plans of the city engineer materialize. The city is also to reimburse the railway company for the labor cost of removing its tracks on Torrance boulevard as well as pay the total cost of the beautification of the parkway.

It was further agreed that the Pacific Electric would not oppose a proposed grade crossing of the railway tracks at the lower end of Cabrillo avenue near Plaza del Amo. This is considered by Leonard to be important in order that the roadways on both sides of the tracks may be used when the projected Cabrillo avenue extension is completed to connect with Sepulveda boulevard.

This Sepulveda boulevard project includes the improvement of Camino Real and Hawthorne boulevard, Leonard pointed out. The completed highway in Torrance known as Sepulveda boulevard will run from the western boundary of the city to the eastern city limits; Hawthorne boulevard will connect with Lomita (Weston street) boulevard, and Cabrillo from the Pacific Electric depot south to Sepulveda boulevard.

## Class of '31 Bids Farewell to Torrance High School Next Thursday



Science Building, Torrance High School

## SCHOOL TERMS WILL CLOSE NEXT WEEK

### Largest Classes in City History to Graduate at Torrance Institutions; Public Invited to All Programs

Next week is Commencement week for the High school, Junior High and two Elementary schools in the city. Summer vacation starts Thursday, June 18, for all schools in Torrance. Fifty students, members of the Class of Summer '31, will be honored in the first public function of the all-important school week when Baccalaureate service will be held at the High school patio Sunday afternoon, June 14, at 6 o'clock. The commencement program is scheduled for Thursday evening, June 18, at 8 o'clock in the auditorium,

## Two Elementary Units Graduate

### Torrance, Waleria Schools Will Honor Pupils With Graduation Program

Fifty pupils will graduate from the A-6 class at the Torrance elementary school Thursday afternoon, June 18, at 1 o'clock. They will enter the Junior High school when all institutions in the city re-open Monday, August 31. The Waleria school is graduating four A-6 pupils at the same time.

An informal party program will be held at the Waleria school beginning at 2 o'clock next Thursday in honor of the pupils who are leaving that institution, according to Principal M. R. Helbach. The parents and friends of the students are cordially invited to attend the party. At the close of the festivities, Principal Helbach will present the following students with their final report cards: James Mayo, Henrietta Lopez, Lucille Crowe and Charles Conze.

## Registration Open For Younger Boys' Camp at Big Park

The camp for younger boys between ages of nine and 13 at Big Pine Recreation Park under the sponsorship of the Boy Scouts of America, opens Wednesday, June 24, for seven-day periods during the summer. All usual camp activities under trained leadership will be included. Registration is open to all boys of the stated ages, irrespective of place of residence or membership in any organization.

Local Boy Rangers are planning a camp meeting for next Wednesday afternoon at the Scout hall at 3:30 o'clock, and parents of these boys and other boys and their parents who are interested are invited to be present. Circulars, registration blanks and other information will be available at that meeting and later at the shop of F. L. Parks, 1418 Marcella, phone 60, or at the San Pedro Scout office, 361 West Eighth street, phone 2078.

## 2 Girl Graduates Are First Born Students

Two girl members of the graduating class at the High school are the first High school students born in Torrance to graduate from the local institution.

They are Norma Rappaport, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rappaport, and Jean Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Smith.

## Junior High Has Record Class

### 88 Students Are to Graduate Wednesday, June 17, at Auditorium

Another record class to graduate here next week is the A-9 class of the Junior High school which will be honored at a closing program to be held at 1:15 p. m., Wednesday, June 17.

There are 88 students in this class who will become members of the B-10 Senior High school student body this fall. The public is cordially invited to join with the parents and friends of the graduates at the Wednesday afternoon program to be held at the High school auditorium.

The following is the Junior High school graduation program: Selection by the Junior High Boys' Glee club; a talk by Hannah Kepke on "Schools in the West Indies"; piano solo by Joy Fossum; an explanation of "The Pacific Era" by Shizuko Kazama; selections by the A-9 Girls' Trio, composed of Ula Paisley, Esther Terry and Betty Danford; songs by the A-7 A Cappella chorus; a talk on "Pals Play" by Kenneth Fess; selections by the Junior High Girls' Glee club, and presentation of diplomas by Principal Herbert S. Wood.

The A-9 class is composed of: Eleanor Austin, Ruth Banks, Ruth Blackhall, Alice Burger, Mildred Cowan, Betty Danford, Blanche Deithers, Alice Dossie, Elyda Dougherty, Lona Evans, Bernice Everett, Margaret Floyd, Joy Fossum, Kathryn Fritz, Pearl Gilbert, Pauline Haulley, Zona Harris, Helen Hawthorn, Pauline Hoperatt, Dorothy Jensen, Ruth Kasper, Shizuko Kazama, Harriet Kenney, Hannah Long, Virginia Mikelson, Haruko Minami, Sadako Murakami and Ruth Nahmens.

## PARK BONDS LOSE; FREE- HOLDERS ARE SELECTED

### \$150,000 Issue Given Majority Vote Tuesday But Not Enough to Carry; 40.6 Per Cent of Voters Go to Polls

Although given a majority vote, the \$150,000 Park-Playground Bond issue was defeated here Tuesday for the lack of the necessary two-thirds endorsement. The vote was: Yes, 407; No, 479. There were 1109 votes cast, representing the interest of 40.6 per cent of the qualified electors in the city. Torrance has 2584 citizens eligible to vote, according to the latest information from the office of the Registrar of Voters.

## Supervisors Are Impressed With Center Project

### Large Delegation Attends Hearing on County Health Center

## QUINN PLEDGES SUPPORT

### Citizens Show Supervisors Torrance Has Best Site for Unit

That there is an intense city-wide interest in the proposed Torrance Health and Welfare Center, a county project designed for the triangular strip between Carson street and Plaza del Amo, was effectively and forcefully demonstrated to the Board of Supervisors yesterday morning. The delegation consisted of 80 men and women who attended the supervisors' hearing on the inclusion of the Health and Welfare Center project in this year's county budget.

Four speakers, Mayor John Dennis, W. Rufus Page, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Councilman R. R. Smith, and Judge C. T. Rippey presented the city's case. Quinn challenged the representative Torrance delegation and remained apathetic to this community's request. Quinn pledged his vote and whole-hearted support to the project which has been brewing here for nearly three years.

**Ask Fund Increase**  
The result of the hearing, in the minds of many who attended the Wednesday morning session, was that the supervisors cannot possibly overlook or minimize the importance of building the Health and Welfare Center here during the coming county fiscal year.

**Establishment of the county unit on property purchased by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce had been sought here out of a \$50,000 appropriation for the buildings and furnishings. However, Judge Rippey, in his address to the Supervisors yesterday, asked that in addition to this building fund, an additional appropriation of \$20,000 be included in the 1931-32 budget for the construction and equipment of a justice court and quarters for the constable and his deputies.**

While the Supervisors, as a group, gave no indication as to whether or not the Torrance project will be included in the tentative or preliminary budget which is to be adopted by July 1, local citizens returned from the hearing with high hopes that this city will not again be refused the long-sought improvement. The final budget is to be adopted by September 1.

**City's Qualifications**  
Mayor John Dennis opened the city's case with a brief sketch of the County Health and Welfare Center's history. This dated back, he declared, to when Supervisor McClellan, now deceased, encouraged the local chamber to purchase the site adjoining the American Legion club house and promised his support to the creation of the county unit at that location. An analytical discussion of this community's qualifications for the Center was given by W. Rufus Page. These included, he said, the fact that Torrance was the geographically most central city in the county.

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On the same ballot, 15 citizens were elected on a board of freeholders which will start work in the near future drafting a city charter. Those who were selected by the people Tuesday to undertake the formation of a Torrance constitution which will raise this city out of the general sixth-class division are as follows:

Dr. J. S. Lancaster, Herbert S. Wood, Robert L. Deininger, Earl Conner, J. W. Post, C. T. Rippey, Carl Hyde, George J. Peckham, Fay L. Parks, C. M. Howard, Frank R. Leonard, W. Rufus Page, Mrs. Caroline Collins, Guy L. Mowry and Scott R. Ludlow. They received the highest number of votes out of a candidate list of 21 citizens qualified to act as freeholders. There were four write-in candidates reported receiving one vote each at the McDonald Tract consolidated precinct. Election officials at the five precincts polling places declared they experienced no disturbance during the day. The election drew a consistent stream of voters throughout the 13-hour voting period.

**Vote on Freeholders**  
The complete returns on the selection of the freeholders is as follows:

Dr. J. S. Lancaster	562
Herbert S. Wood	555
Robert L. Deininger	519
Earl Conner	615
J. W. Post	514
C. T. Rippey	484
Carl Hyde	473
George J. Peckham	470
Fay L. Parks	470
C. M. Howard	464
Frank R. Leonard	463
W. Rufus Page	443
Mrs. Caroline Collins	435
Guy L. Mowry	426
Scott R. Ludlow	424

Grover C. Whyte ..... 398  
Miss Esther Z. Maxwell ..... 388  
Sam Levy ..... 365  
Thomas Cassidy ..... 316  
Frank Spoon ..... 305  
DeKalb Spurlin ..... 281

## Knights of Columbus Elect New Officers

At the Knights of Columbus meeting last Wednesday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Albert Puetz, grand knight; Robert Effe, deputy grand knight; Thomas Cassidy, chancellor; Marion Reeve, recording secretary; Lucius Arnold, treasurer; John Nady, advocate; Carl Gramling, inside guard; William McMaster, outside guard, and Carl Gramling, trustee.

At the same meeting these men were elected as delegates to the Southern California chapter: Thomas Cassidy, Theodore Wertz, Carl Gramling and Robert Effe.

**POULTRYMEN TO MEET AT  
LOLNU SCHOOL MONDAY**  
The Poultrymen's State-Wide Protective Association will hold its next regular meeting at Lennox in the school building Monday evening, June 15, at 7:30 o'clock. A number of Pomona members of the association will be present to talk on poultry problems. All local poultrymen, whether members or not, are urged to be present at this meeting as many subjects of interest will be discussed, according to Mrs. Jacob Roth, Gardena, secretary.

**COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
A special meeting of the City Council will be held next Monday evening to canvass the ballots of the Park bond election. The regular meeting of the council will be held the following night.

## How They Voted on Bonds

Precinct	Reg. Voters	Yes	No	Vote Cast
"A" at 2775 Torrance (Redondo) Blvd.	793	194	146	342
"B" at City Fire Hall	854	189	135	321
"C" at Legion Clubhouse	677	145	122	271
"D" at Waleria	262	68	11	80
"E" at McDonald Tract	270	11	65	77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2584</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1101</b>

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